

former body guard of opposition political leader Aung San Suu Kyi; and

(E) the September 13, 2012, fatal shooting by the Tatmadaw of 14-year old Ja Seng Ing in Hpakant Township, Kachin State.

SENATE RESOLUTION 117—RECOGNIZING LINEMEN, THE PROFESSION OF LINEMEN, THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THESE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 31, 2015, AS NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

Mr. TILLIS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 117

Whereas the profession of linemen is steeped in personal, family, and professional tradition;

Whereas linemen are often first responders during storms and other catastrophic events, working to make the scene safe for other public safety heroes;

Whereas linemen must work high atop powerlines 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to keep electricity flowing;

Whereas linemen play a vital role in the Nation's economy by maintaining and growing the energy infrastructure of the United States;

Whereas linemen must often work under dangerous conditions separated from their families to keep schools and businesses open;

Whereas linemen put their lives on the line every day with little recognition from the community regarding the danger of their work; and

Whereas March 31, 2015, would be an appropriate date to designate as National Lineman Appreciation Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the efforts of linemen in keeping the power on and protecting public safety; and

(2) supports the designation of National Lineman Appreciation Day.

SENATE RESOLUTION 118—AMENDING RULE XXXI OF THE STANDING RULES FOR THE SENATE, TO PROVIDE FOR TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF NOMINATIONS

Mr. MERKLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 118

Resolved,

SECTION 1. TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF NOMINATIONS.

Rule XXXI of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs 3 through 7 as paragraphs 4 through 8, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph 2 the following:

“3.(a) In this paragraph, the term ‘covered nomination’ means a nomination other than a nomination—

“(1) of an individual to serve as a justice of the Supreme Court of the United States or as Chief Justice of the United States; or

“(2) to a position entitled to expedited procedures under S. Res. 116 (112th Congress).

“(b) Subject to subparagraph (c), if a covered nomination has been on the Executive

Calendar for more than 14 calendar days, the covered nomination shall be eligible for expedited consideration in accordance with subparagraph (d).

“(c)(1) For a covered nomination described in clause (3), unless not less than 10 Senators have submitted written requests for the record that the covered nomination be considered by the full Senate in executive session before the end of the 14 calendar day period described in subparagraph (b)—

“(A) the nomination shall be deemed to be confirmed by the Senate; and

“(B) the Secretary shall send to the President a notification of the confirmation.

“(2) If not less than 10 Senators submit a written request in accordance with clause (1) with respect to a covered nomination described in clause (3), the covered nomination shall be eligible for expedited consideration in accordance with subparagraph (d).

“(3) A covered nomination described in this clause is a covered nomination other than the nomination of an individual—

“(A) to serve as a judge or justice appointed to hold office during good behavior; or

“(B) to a position at level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of title 5, United States Code.

“(d)(1) The majority leader may provide notice that a covered nomination that is eligible for expedited consideration in accordance with this subparagraph shall be considered on an expedited basis.

“(2) Except as provided in clauses (3) and (4), 24 hours after the majority leader provides notice under clause (1) with respect to a covered nomination, the Senate shall proceed to executive session and begin consideration of the covered nomination.

“(3) Forty-eight hours after the majority leader provides notice under clause (1) with respect to a covered nomination to serve as a judge appointed to hold office during good behavior or a nomination to a position at level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of title 5, United States Code, the Senate shall proceed to executive session and begin consideration of the nomination.

“(4) If the majority leader provides notice with respect to more than 1 covered nomination during any 24 hour period, the covered nominations shall be considered in accordance with clause (5) in the order in which notice was provided.

“(5) Notwithstanding rule XXII, expedited consideration of a covered nomination under this subparagraph, including consideration of any debatable motion or appeal in connection therewith—

“(A) shall be limited to 4 hours, evenly divided in the usual form, in the case of a nomination to serve as a judge of a circuit court of the United States or a nomination to a position at level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of title 5, United States Code; and

“(B) shall be limited to 2 hours, evenly divided in the usual form, in the case of any other covered nomination.”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 119—AMENDING RULE XXVIII OF THE STANDING RULES FOR THE SENATE TO PROVIDE FOR TIMELY ESTABLISHMENT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 119

Resolved,

SECTION 1. MOTIONS TO GO TO CONFERENCE.

Rule XXVIII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by striking paragraph 2(b) and inserting the following:

“(b) Consideration of a motion described in subparagraph (a), including consideration of any debatable motion or appeal in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 2 hours.”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 120—MODIFYING EXTENDED DEBATE IN THE SENATE TO IMPROVE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 120

Resolved,

SECTION 1. EXTENDED DEBATE.

Paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by striking the second undesignated paragraph and inserting the following:

“Is it the sense of the Senate that the debate shall be brought to a close? And unless that question shall be decided in the negative by one more than two-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn (except on a measure or motion to amend the Senate rules, in which case the necessary vote shall be two-thirds of the Senators present and voting in the affirmative, a quorum being present), then cloture has been invoked.

“If that question is on disposition of a bill or joint resolution, a resolution or concurrent resolution, a substitute amendment for a bill or resolution, a motion with respect to amendments between the Houses, a conference report, or advice and consent to a nomination or treaty, and if such question shall be decided in the affirmative by a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, and in the negative by more than two-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn (or in the affirmative by less than two-thirds of the Senators voting, a quorum being present, in the case of a measure or motion to amend the Senate rules), then it shall be in order for the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) to initiate a period of extended debate upon the measure, motion, or other matter pending before the Senate, or the unfinished business, in relation to which the motion to close debate was offered, in which case the period of extended debate shall begin one hour later.

“During a period of extended debate, such measure, motion, or other matter pending before the Senate, or the unfinished business, shall be the unfinished business to the exclusion of all other business, except on action or motion by the Majority Leader (or his or her designee).

“During a period of extended debate it shall not be in order for a Senator other than the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) to raise a question as to the presence of a quorum, except immediately prior to a vote or when it has been more than forty-eight hours since a quorum was demonstrated. If upon a roll call it shall be ascertained that a quorum is not present, then the Senate shall adjourn to a time previously decided by order of the Senate or, if no such time has been established, then to a time certain determined by the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Minority Leader.

“During a period of extended debate a motion to adjourn or recess shall not be in order, unless made by the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) or if the absence of a quorum has been demonstrated. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of rule XIX, there shall